

Maryland Horse

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MARYLAND HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION INC.

30 East Padonia Road
Timonium, MD 21093
P.O. Box 427
Timonium, MD 21094
410-252-2100
Fax 410-560-0503
www.marylandthoroughbred.com

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2011 Maryland-bred Champions

Horse of the Year
Older male • Turf runner • Sprinter
BEN'S CAT

*Dk.b./br.g., 2006, by Parker's Storm Cat—Twofox, by Thirty Eight Paces.
Bred by K.T. Leatherbury Associates Inc.; owned by The Jim Stable;
trained by King T. Leatherbury. Foaled at Northview Stallion Station, Chesapeake City.*



Jeremy Rose hopped off Ben's Cat after the Maryland Million Turf Sprint in October and started talking.

"Awesome. Just awesome. People said it was close. At no point was it close," the jockey said of the 1-length win. "I had so much horse. To me,

he's the best horse at that distance on that surface in the country. He's in the top three or four horses I've ridden and I've ridden some decent ones.

He's better than just a Maryland horse or just a Mid-Atlantic horse."

Rose might still be talking if he didn't have to ride another horse. The Maryland-bred Horse of the Year for 2011 is that kind of Thoroughbred.

Bred and trained by Maryland legend King T. Leatherbury, Ben's Cat won six of his 11 starts, all in stakes, and earned \$588,250 in 2011 while racing for Leatherbury's The Jim Stable. The now 6-year-old son of former Maryland sire Parker's Storm Cat took down champion sprinter, older male and turf runner honors as well, joining Heros Reward (2007-'08) and Les Arcs (2006) as the only Maryland-breds to be awarded as many divisional titles in one year.

Sprinting on the turf, he lost just once—in the \$200,000 Parx Dash in June—by a head.

"He should have won that race," Rose said. "I got him beat that day, got him shuffled

a little bit around the turn. Otherwise, he's undefeated at that distance on that surface."

His most important win came in the \$350,000 Grade 3 Turf Monster Handicap at Parx in September. He won twice on the main track—in Laurel Park's Laurel Dash and Mister Diz Stakes, both which came off the turf. And he was a star at Pimlico on the day before the Preakness when motoring to victory in the Jim McKay Turf Sprint.

Like most witnesses, Rose wanted to tackle the Breeders' Cup with the Maryland-bred but never got the chance when Leatherbury opted to pass on a shot at a \$1 million purse on one of racing's biggest stages in the Turf Sprint.

Instead, the product of Leatherbury's Thirty Eight Paces mare Twofox settled for being a local hero. Fans at Laurel on Maryland Million Day reveled in the victory as if they were partners in the horse, congratulating Leather-

bury, showing off winning tickets, angling to get into the background of the winner's circle photo.

Considering that he broke his pelvis at 2, spent six months in a stall and first raced as a 4-year-old—for a \$20,000 claiming price—the gelding's feats grow more remarkable all the time.

"There's an old saying, horses come in all shapes and sizes, only some run faster than others, so who knows?" Leatherbury said. "I'm lucky, just lucky. Just a routine breeding thing that I've done many times. This one happened to hit, hit the jackpot. I had no idea he was going to be anything like this or I would have never run him for \$20,000. He just got better and better and now he's at the top of his game. Now he's as good as he can be."

Ben's Cat connects to a long line of Leatherbury's by now deep and successful breeding program.

Twofox placed in stakes. Her full-sister, Maryland-bred champion Thirty Eight Go Go, won graded stakes and \$871,229, while another full-sister, Endette, produced \$918,874 earner and Maryland-bred champion Ah Day. Twofox's half-sister Notches Trace was also a Maryland-bred champion.

The champion turf runner and sprinter of 2010, Ben's Cat has 14 wins from 20 starts and \$800,230 to his credit. The pursuit of \$1 million starts in early April at Pimlico, but not before a well-deserved break (with turnout mate and relative Ah Day) at the farm of Charles and Barbara Stanley near Chesapeake City.

"He got a chance to get out and roll around in the mud, kick up his heels," Leatherbury said of the time off. "It's the first chance he's had to get a real break, and it was good for him. Rap on wood, he's got no problems."

/Joe Clancy



Two-year-old male JACK'S IN THE DECK

Dk.b./br.c., 2009, by Love of Money—Thracian, by Partner's Hero.

Bred by Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman;

owned by Skeedattle Associates; trained by Robin L. Graham.

Foaled at Dance Forth Farm, Chestertown.

Willie White and Lou Rehak have worked together for 33 years. They meet for an

hour and 15 minutes every morning.

At Laurel Park.

From 6:30 to 7:45, the long-time friends watch their horses (trained by Hamilton Smith and Robin Graham), tell a few stories, hear a few lies and then go to work, selling overhead doors at their Mid-Atlantic Door Group, 15 minutes from Laurel.

"We swing by there every morning. Both Robin and Ham know to train the horses between 6:30 and a quarter of 8," White said. "The horses come out, we watch them, we drink a cup of coffee, read the paper, talk to all the guys around there, it's a great way to start the day. We've been doing it for 20 years. There are so many characters in the racing business, so much fun, there's a new story every day."

Last year, White and Rehak wrote another story for Skeedattle Associates. The 20-year partnership of White, Rehak and Bob Orndorff campaigned Jack's in the Deck to a three-win campaign, including the Grade 2 Futurity at Belmont Park, to earn the Maryland-bred 2-year-old title. Bred by Dr. and Mrs. Tom Bowman, Jack's in the Deck

earned \$217,010 in eight starts. The dark bay son of Love of Money finished off the board once from May to December.

All because of a private yearling show by Becky Davis in the fall of 2010. The Bowmans' daughter showed the fourth foal from the unraced mare Thracian to Graham and Skeedattle while they were looking at some yearlings. White was hooked.

"He just had a great walk, a big bold walk, a great shoulder," White said. "We just thought he looked like our kind of horse. We were able to make a deal that day."

Educated and Delaware-certified at Lynn Ashby's training center, Jack's in the Deck came to Graham at Laurel and had her hooked too. He made his debut at Delaware Park, finishing second. Maiden races at Delaware failed to fill so Jack's in the Deck went north for the \$150,000 Futurity at Belmont and upset a field of six at 14-1.

"Robin did a really great job with him," White said. "When the Futurity came up, she was very confident that he

was that kind of horse. With a precocious 2-year-old at that time of year for that kind of purse available, we thought we should take a shot. It worked out really well."

It was a rare time when a Skedaddle winner's circle wasn't overflowing.

"None of us were there. My two daughters had babies a week apart. When he was winning the Futurity, my daughter was having her ba-

by," White said. "We were sitting in the waiting room and my partner Lou Rehak happened to be there with us, my wife, and the other siblings were there when it happened. As we were listening to the race call on the phone, things got very excited, people weren't sure if we were having a baby or winning a race. It was a great day all around."

Jack's in the Deck returned to finish third in the Grade 2

Sanford Stakes at Saratoga before picking up an allowance at Delaware Park in August. He finished fourth (but was elevated to third) in the Maryland Million Nursery, then two weeks later won the First State Dash at Delaware. The Maryland Juvenile Championship wrapped up his season—he was second upon the disqualification of King and Crusader.

"He goes out there and tries every time. He doesn't like the winter tracks. The jocks say he's running but not getting a hold of the track," White said. "He's had the winter off and now he's back in training. We'll put him on the grass in the spring. Robin had him on the grass earlier and thought he really liked it. Hopefully he'll have a good future there."

/Sean Clancy



JIM MCCUE

Two-year-old filly PLUM

*Ch.f., 2009, by Pure Prize—Bamba, by Not For Love.
Bred and owned by Dark Hollow Farm; trained by
Rodney Jenkins. Foaled at Dark Hollow Farm, Upperco.*

Four starts, three wins, a second, \$86,070 in the bank. Plum did little wrong in 2011, rocketing to the Maryland-bred 2-year-old filly championship for owner/breeder Dark Hollow Farm and trainer Rodney Jenkins.

Despite the success, Dark Hollow's David Hayden insisted his filly "flies under the radar" with an attitude of calm and cool until she gets into a battle.

"If she goes out by herself, 1:04 (for 5 furlongs)

is blistering," said Hayden. "But if she goes out with other horses, she's really competitive and goes in a minute. She's as tough as she has to be."

Plum (whose work tab includes bullets and the opposite) had to be plenty tough in her final start of 2011, a head victory over More Than a Cruise in the \$75,000 Maryland Juvenile Filly Championship Stakes at Laurel Park going 7½ furlongs on Dec. 17.

The daughter of Pure Prize angled out from behind horses, summoned a challenge in mid-stretch and just got there for Travis Dunkelberger.

Hayden and his wife JoAnn bred Plum's dam, Bamba, a daughter of Not For Love, and sold her as a yearling. When her racing career ended, they bought her back and added her to their broodmare band. Plum, the third foal out of Bamba, called attention to herself at the farm.

"When you live on the farm like we do, you can look out the window and see these alpha personalities," Hayden said. "You remember them

and she was one. She just made you pay attention to her."

Plum was sent to Fasig-Tipton's 2010 Eastern Fall Yearling Sale at Timonium. Hayden wanted \$40,000. . . the bids stopped at \$35,000. So Plum came home, grew up and in 2011 went to the racing stable—joining Jenkins at Laurel in time to make her debut in mid-September.

Racing exclusively at her home track, she finished second going 1 mile, then rattled off three successive wins—a mile and a sixteenth maiden special on Nov. 2, a first-level allowance at a mile on Nov. 25, and then the stakes—to claim the divisional title.

Hayden laughed when asked about the decision to send Bamba to Vinery Kentucky stallion Pure Prize.

"The genius behind it was Not For Love [Bamba's sire] was bred by the Phipps family and Pure Prize was too," he said. "They've already done a whole lot of work breeding the best to the best for years and years, so we figured 'why not?'"

There's a yearling full-sister at the farm now.

/Joe Clancy

Three-year-old male POSEIDON'S WARRIOR

*Dk.b./br.c., 2008, by Speightstown—Poised to Pounce,
by Smarten. Bred by Dark Hollow Farm and
William P. Beatson; owned by Swilcan Stable; trained by
Robert E. Reid Jr. Foaled at Dark Hollow Farm, Upperco.*

When you are named for the Greek god of the sea, who was also known as "Earth Shaker," you better be ready for a fight.

Maryland-bred 3-year-old champion Poseidon's Warrior lived up to his name—running nine times in 2011 (once every month from April through December), winning four and gaining a reputation as a

tough customer in any Mid-Atlantic sprint. Racing for trainer Butch Reid, the son of Speightstown earned \$244,937 to prevail in a strong division that included four-time winner Concealed Identity.

The year started with back-to-back fourths in stakes company at Parx Racing and Presque Isle Downs. Shifted to a second-level allowance



at Parx in June, Poseidon's Warrior won gate-to-wire by 10 lengths over older rivals, "with speed to spare," noted the chart. His time for 6 furlongs was 1:08.18.

Sold by Cash Is King Stable to Tom McGrath's Swilcan Stable after that race, Poseidon's Warrior delivered another powerful win, this time in the East Hanover Stakes at Penn National in late July. He battled up close early under Frankie Pennington and drew off late to score by 6¼ lengths in 1:09.36.

Reid tried Saratoga and the Grade 1 King's Bishop next, and Poseidon's Warrior drew a few looks as a live longshot before fading to sixth behind Caleb's Posse and Uncle Mo. No matter, the dark bay colt went back to work and finished second to Royal Currier—in a 1:07.51 track record-setting performance—in the \$250,000 Gallant Bob Stakes at Parx, then put together another two-race skein. He dominated restricted foes in Delaware Park's New Castle Stakes in

October, getting 6 furlongs in 1:09.08 and winning by almost 2 lengths. In November, Poseidon's Warrior faced off with Royal Currier once more and whipped his rival by 3½ lengths in the Le Bagoter Stakes at Penn National, with the clock stopping at 1:09.67. A third behind Royal Currier and J J's Lucky Train in the Valley Forge Stakes at Parx on Dec. 20 did little to diminish the campaign.

The champion spent the winter at Eisaman Equine in Florida, and will return for a 2012 campaign.

"He was just a notch away from the best sprinters," said Reid of 2011. "Maturity will help him. Another year older, he might put some of that 3-year-old stuff behind him and improve. He's going to have to earn it, but the [Grade 1] Breeders' Cup Sprint is the goal."

Bred by Dark Hollow Farm and William Beatson, Poseidon's Warrior hails from a long line of Maryland heroes tracing back to Counterflight, a \$1,500 Timonium auction purchase by owner/breeder John Merryman in 1964. Counterflight never raced, but produced 10 winners

from 11 foals, including stakes winner Lady Lyndy (dam of \$711,804-earner Smart 'n Quick).

Another Lady Lyndy daughter, Poised to Pounce, earned \$62,420 on the track and continued the tradition-producing Maryland Million Classic-winning \$455,240-earner Play Bingo, stakes winner Quick 'n Smart, and now Poseidon's Warrior, her last of nine foals.

Beatson (a real estate developer in Annapolis) and Dark Hollow's David Hayden bought the Smarten mare (carrying Play Bingo) in 2000 and sold most of her offspring. Poseidon's Warrior was sold for \$90,000 as a 2-year-old.

"She got runners, just a great mare," Hayden said of Poised to Pounce, who died in 2009 while carrying a Hard Spun foal. "Poseidon's Warrior is a really, really nice horse and we're happy he's done as well as he has. We probably should have kept him, but he's fun to watch."

His half-sister Popeye's Lady (by Forest Wildcat) is part of the Dark Hollow broodmare band now.

/Joe Clancy

Three-year-old filly BOLD AFFAIR

Ch.f., 2008, by Two Punch—Hunka Hunka Lori Z, by Colonial Affair. Bred and owned by Charles Reed and Michael Zanella; trained by Howard Wolfendale. Foaled at Green Willow Farm, Westminster.

Chip Reed has owned horses for 30 years, all the way back to when he had them with trainer Richard Ferris at Bowie Race Course. Mike Zanella bought his first horse in 1999.

Reed's longtime friend decided he wanted to get involved, so they put up \$3,500 apiece to buy a yearling daughter by Colonial Affair at the 1999 Fasig-Tipton Mid-lantic Eastern Fall Yearling sale.

"He always wanted to own horses. The first horse he was

involved in was a multi-stakes winner," Reed laughed. "He hasn't tasted a lot of what I've tasted in the 30 years. We've had good luck together.

Zanella's first purchase, Hunka Hunka Lori Z, won seven races, including the Caesar's Wish and Stefanita Stakes, and earned \$266,533.

Reed and Zanella have been enjoying the game ever since.

Hunka Hunka Lori Z's third foal, Bold Affair, won four races in 2011, including



JIM MCCUE

the \$200,000 Jostle Stakes at Parx Racing, en route to the Maryland-bred 3-year-old filly championship.

"It's been fun," Reed said. "It's a thrill to have a nice horse."

Educated with Lynn Ashby in Delaware, the daughter of Two Punch joined Howard Wolfendale at Laurel but didn't make her first start until April of her 3-year-old season.

"She was real big so we were real slow and gave her a lot of time. Howard kept saying that her stride was so long that she could be nice, she would work well, but she had a lot of bumps and bruises along the way because she was so big. We just took our time. When she worked in the morning, it didn't look like she was going as fast as she was, but her stride was so long, it was surprising to everybody. Howard knew after the second or third work that she could be okay."

From April 10 to May 20, Bold Affair won her first two starts, a maiden special and allowance, both at 6 furlongs

at Pimlico, by a combined 11¾ lengths, then finished third in the Miss Preakness Stakes. She tackled the Jostle in June, winning by a length over Strike the Moon. A month later, she finished third in Monmouth's Dearly Precious Stakes before taking a breather. The chestnut returned on Dec. 13 at Parx, battling stakes winner Jealous Girl to take a 6-furlong allowance by a neck.

"Ramon (Dominguez) said she would have won the Miss Preakness but she got stuck on the rail. We learned a lot that day, she has to be on the outside," Reed said. "We got Stewart Elliot and said, 'Look,

just keep her to the outside [in the Jostle].' She went seven or eight wide and closed like a choo choo."

Reed and Zanella also campaign Bold Affair's now 6-year-old full-sister, Lori Z's Punch, who has won four races and \$160,325. Based at Green Willow Farm in Westminster, Hunka Hunka Lori Z hasn't been in foal since she gave birth to Bold Affair.

"This is it, unless we can get her in foal again," Reed said. "She has Cushing's disease, the vet we're using in Kentucky thinks we're 50/50 to get her in foal this year, that's what we're hoping."

As for 2012, Bold Affair (an earner of \$212,880) finished second to stakes winner Red's Round Table in allowance company in January and aimed for a showdown with that rival in the Grade 2 Barbara Fritchie in February.

After a Bold Affair win, you better get down to Reed's Corner Stable Restaurant in Timonium or Columbia.

"Oh yeah, we have a good following," Reed said. "It's a lot of fun. You're not going to make a whole lot of money in the game so any time you win, you've got to enjoy it."

Bold Affair has done her share.

/Sean Clancy

Older female ASK THE MOON

B.m., 2005, by Malibu Moon—Always Asking, by Valid Appeal. Bred by Mr. and Mrs. Charles McGinnes and Country Life Farm; owned by Farnsworth Stables LLC; trained by Marty Wolfson. Foaled at Thornmar Farm, Chestertown.

Two races do not make a career, but they can go a long way toward boosting a reputation.

Maryland-bred older female champion of 2011 Ask the Moon won the right two races this summer—back-to-back Grade 1 triumphs at Saratoga—to vault into the upper echelon of the national distaff picture.

The daughter of Malibu Moon ran away with the Ruffian, going wire-to-wire at a mile and an eighth, while pulling an 18-1 shocker, on July 31. She parlayed that triumph into another front-running masterpiece, this time at 1¼ miles as the favorite, in the Personal Ensign Invitational on Sept. 3. The victories earned her two more Grade 1 starts, both defeats, and a ticket to Fasig-Tipton's November mixed sale—where she sold for \$800,000 as a broodmare prospect to SF Bloodstock, a group headed by Australian Gavin Murphy.

Not bad for a \$75,000 claim in five months earlier.

Through her first 29 starts, Ask the Moon raced for trainer Ned Allard and owners Cheval Corporation and Millicent Johnsen—winning eight times. She captured the 2007 Maryland Juvenile Filly Championship and placed in several other stakes at Mid-Atlantic tracks.

On June 15, 2011, Allard took her to Belmont Park and she was claimed by Farnsworth Farm and trainer Gary Contessa. Second that day, she finished third in the Sky Beauty Stakes two weeks later, then joined Marty Wolfson's stable at Monmouth Park. The Ruffian and Personal Ensign were her first two starts for Wolfson.

"It's beyond anything we ever thought," said the trainer's assistant Heather Irions at Saratoga. "She's a lot of fun, she's eager to train and happy about training, she's just all class."

Ask the Moon faltered in the Grade 1 Lady's Secret at Santa Anita in October, then finished sixth behind Royal



ADAM COGLIANESE

Delta in the Breeders' Cup Ladies' Classic-G1 at Churchill Downs to end her season with two wins from seven starts and \$352,160 earned.

The champion Maryland-bred 2-year-old filly of 2007 nearly didn't come to be. In 2003, breeders Charlie and Cynthia McGinnes sent a mare to Country Life Farm stallion Malibu Moon with a right to a return breeding. The mare failed to get in foal, but Malibu Moon had moved to Kentucky's Spendthrift Farm and gone up considerably in price—putting the return in question.

Despite the changes, Country Life honored the return, the McGinneses sent another mare (Always

Asking, by Valid Appeal) to Kentucky and named the Pons family's farm co-breeder of a future Grade 1 winner.

"They didn't have to do that, because it wasn't in the original contract" said Cynthia McGinnes. "It just goes to show you that when you do the right thing good things happen. Ask the Moon was our first Breeders' Cup starter so it's nice to produce a horse that made it on to the national scene after all these years."

Now 19, Always Asking gets bred every other year because of her age. She has an Old Fashioned yearling filly and is being bred to Exchange Rate in 2012.

/Joe Clancy



Steeplechaser INCOMPLETE

*B.g., 2001, by Press Card—Sioux Lady, by Poker.
Bred by Hugo Procopio; owned by Robert A. Kinsley; trained by
Ann D. Stewart. Foaled at Shamrock Farms, Woodbine.*

Things happen in seven years. Wars, itches, long college careers. And, every now and then, complete career overhauls for Thoroughbreds.

Seven years after starting 22 times as a 3-year-old, Incomplete is a Maryland-bred steeplechase champion. The son of Press Card won one timber stakes and placed in two others to win the crown in his fifth season as a steeplechase horse for owner Bob Kinsley and trainer Ann Stewart.

The success was a long way from the horse's career

beginning, which included two starts as a juvenile in 2003 and then the busy 3-year-old season. That arduous journey started Jan. 19, 2004, and didn't end until New Year's Eve. He made all the local stops—Laurel, Pimlico, Timonium, Colonial Downs—and won twice (for claiming prices of \$10,000 and \$15,000) for Marilyn Procopio and trainer Greg Wilson.

By March 2005, Incomplete was out of options—he finished seventh while racing for a \$5,000 tag at Laurel—and was sold to horsewoman Dawn Williams. She remem-

bered him from his flat days and had worked with his half-brothers Calico Sioux and Sioux Sunset (who went on to second careers as a steeplechaser and a show horse, respectively). Williams in turn sold Incomplete as a foxhunter for Stewart's daughter Beth Garner, only Incomplete was no lady's hunter.

Author of Maryland Hunt Cup winners Ivory Poacher, Swayo and Askim (NZ), among others, Stewart went to work and created a timber star.

Incomplete won his first three National Steeplechase

Association starts, including the 2009 My Lady's Manor stakes by more than 10 lengths. The progress derailed slightly in 2010, but he returned in 2011 with three quality starts in a five-start campaign.

In the spring, he finished second by a neck to Private Attack in the Grand National and lost his rider with a mistake while well beaten in the Maryland Hunt Cup. Stewart regrouped for fall, rare for her.

"If they win the Hunt Cup for me, they don't come back in the fall, but it's hard to tell your owner that that was your star performance," she said. "After the Hunt Cup, it was hard to be confident."

Stewart started Incomplete at Middleburg, Va., on Oct. 1, and he finished 71 lengths behind the winner in little more than a tightener. Two weeks later, Incomplete overpowered seven others, including stakes winners Aero and G'day G'day, in the \$50,000 International Gold Cup at Great Meadow in The Plains, Va.

Seven days after the Gold Cup score, Incomplete looked like a winner late in the \$50,000 New Jersey Hunt Cup at Far Hills, N.J., before a mistake at the second-last nearly dislodged Mark Beecher. Incomplete dropped back to fourth, regained stride and closed to be second in a game effort.

The 2011 season gave Incomplete four wins and two seconds in 10 NSA starts over jumps.

/Joe Clancy

Maryland-bred championship voting *Top vote getters by points, which were awarded as follows: 5—first choice; 3—second; 1—third.*

2-year-old male

Jack's in the Deck (153)
Glib (98)
Coach Fridge (28)
Just Sayin' (8)
Won the War (5)

2-year-old filly

Plum (153)
Bluegrass Atitude (84)
More Than a Cruise (46)
Good Looking Girl (14)

3-year-old male

Poseidon's Warrior (136)
Concealed Identity (125)
Wild Jacob (29)
Monzon (6)

3-year-old filly

Bold Affair (146)
Bessie M (54)
Brushed by Love (46)
Access to Charlie (18)
Nasty Rumor (18)
Art of the Hunt (15)

Older male

Ben's Cat (141)
Eightfastcatch (76)
Havelock (70)
Not Abroad (6)

Older female

Ask the Moon (161)
Baltimore Belle (76)
Sweet Goodbye (28)
Comet of Love (20)
Love's Blush (5)

Sprinter

Ben's Cat (150)
Havelock (71)
Poseidon's Warrior (53)
Roaring Lion (6)
Sweet Goodbye (5)

Turf

Ben's Cat (145)
Havelock (107)
Baltimore Bob (18)
Concealed Identity (10)
Action Andy (6)
Baltimore Belle (6)

Steeplechaser

Incomplete (115)
Wanganui (102)
G'day G'day (46)
Triple Dip (11)

Listed above are all vote getters with at least five points. Selections were made by the MHBA board of directors, *Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred* editors Joe Clancy and Cindy Deubler, Maryland Jockey Club racing secretary Georganne Hale, communications director Mike Gathagan and track announcer Dave Rodman, Bill Brasaemle and Keith Feustle of *Equibase*, reporter Jeannine Edwards, radio host Stan Salter, photographer Lydia Williams, and free-lance writers Dale Austin, Andy Beyer, Ted Black, Sean Clancy, Vinnie Perrone and John Scheinman.

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MARYLAND-BRED STAKES WINNERS



TOM COOLEY

Action Andy returns to winning ways at Tampa Bay

Action Andy has enjoyed trips to Florida for the winter—in five starts at Tampa Bay over the past two seasons, he has three wins and two seconds. In his 2012 debut, the Pelican Stakes at Tampa Bay Downs on Jan. 7, Robert Gerczak's runner was kept within striking distance of quick early fractions before rallying to a runaway $3\frac{1}{2}$ -length score. It was the second stakes win for Action Andy, after having captured the Kitten's Joy at Colonial Downs last summer.

The Carlos Garcia-trained 5-year-old, based at Laurel Park last fall with Dorothy Worton, shipped to Tampa following a fall campaign which saw the son of Gators N Bears make three stakes starts, counting a third in the Laurel Dash in October to Ben's Cat and Royal Currier over a sloppy track his best effort.

Prior to the Pelican, Action Andy was second, beaten a neck, in a 6-furlong allowance at Tampa. Rider Jesse Garcia noted after the Pelican: "In his last start, maybe he was too sharp. We got bumped early in the race and he still made a big run."

Garcia confidently rode Action Andy throughout the

Pelican. Settled behind early fractions of :21.96 and :44.28, Action Andy rolled home in 1:09.58, less than a second off the track record.

"I know this horse really well and Mr. Garcia has got him back in top form," said the rider. "Today he broke just right and I was able to settle him behind the leaders. I didn't ask him until the middle of the turn and he just took off."

The Pelican triumph was the fifth in 20 career starts for Action Andy, who was bred in Maryland by Carlos Garcia's ex-wife Carol Kaye. The dark bay gelding has earned \$157,670.

Gerczak, who owns an insurance agency in White Stone, Va., purchased Action Andy for \$15,000 out of the 2010 Fasig-Tipton Midlantic December Mixed sale when Action Andy was sold to dissolve the Kaygar/Gerczak Stable partnership.

"Nobody else bid on him," Gerczak said. "He has really paid some dividends. I come from a real little town, and I know all my friends saw this on TV. It's a really good feeling."

Action Andy is the first foal out of Love Me Twice (by Not For Love), a half-sister to stakes winners Baltimore Bob (\$377,217), Baltimore Belle (\$324,064) and Gabianna (\$136,610). Baltimore Belle, a three-time stakes winner in 2011, opened 2012 with a second in Parx Racing's Sleight Ride Stakes Jan. 3.

Still owned by Carol Kaye, Love Me Twice is also the dam of four-time winner Sainly Love (2008, by St Averil), has a

3-year-old filly by Fantasticat named Twice the Storm who has yet to start, and produced a colt last April by Great Notion. The mare is in foal to Temple City, a son of Dynaformer out of a half-sister to Malibu Moon, the sire of Baltimore Bob.



ADAM COGLIANESE

King and Crusader concludes crazy week with N.Y. stakes score

In the course of one week in January, King and Crusader was down one, up two and became a stakes winner all over again. James A. Riccio's 3-year-old Maryland-bred colt, from the barn of Rick Dutrow Jr., captured the 6-furlong Jimmy Winkfield Stakes at Aqueduct on Monday, Jan. 16, just three days after taking a 1-mile optional claimer over the same track.

In the \$75,000 Jimmy Winkfield, King and Crusader was parked three wide in the six-horse field while patiently ridden by Cornelio Velasquez off opening fractions of :22.48 and :45.42. King and Crusader swept by the front runners at the eighth pole and held off a late charge from stablemate Reserved Quality to prevail by three-quarters of a length.

The 7-2 fourth-choice returned \$9.90 and completed 6 furlongs in 1:11.72.

In the Jan. 13 race, in which he was risked for a \$75,000 tag, King and Crusader set every fraction and won by 2 lengths. Reserved Quality finished fourth.

"It was all Rick Dutrow," Riccio said of the idea to run King and Crusader back so quickly. "I liked the idea, but I was just curious as to what the numbers were going to look like and they looked okay. I

would say he's going to get about six weeks off now."

It has not been uncommon for Dutrow to wheel runners back on short rest—one of the most remarkable occasions came with Golden Man during the summer of 2005, when the gelding finished third in the Long Branch Breeders' Cup Stakes-G3 at Monmouth on July 16 and shipped to Delaware Park to finish second the next day in the Leonard Richards Stakes-G3.

King and Crusader was first across the line in the \$75,000 Maryland Juvenile Championship at Laurel Park on Dec. 17, but was disqualified for receiving medication too close to the race. The stewards decision was announced Jan. 13. Riccio has since filed an appeal.

Bred by Michael and Patricia Sutherland's North Highland Farm, King and Crusader is out of Regal Intention's daughter Sugarloaf, a winner in her only start. A half-sister to the North Highland-bred stakes winner McKilts, Sugarloaf is from a family that also produced multiple stakes winner P V Lightening for the Sutherlands.

Sugarloaf was the dam of eight consecutive foals, including stakes-placed runner Homesteader (\$220,034, 2nd Whimsical S, etc.), before delivering King and Crusader in 2009—the only foal bred by the Sutherlands that year. Having cut back their operation in recent years, the Sutherlands sold their 77-acre Barnesville farm in October 2010. Sugarloaf, now 15, is boarded in Kentucky—she produced a filly by First Defence in 2011 and is in foal to Spring At Last.

Sold as a yearling for \$8,000 at the Keeneland September sale, King and Crusader was claimed by his current connections for \$35,000 on Aug. 31, 2011, at Saratoga and broke his maiden for a \$25,000 tag at Belmont Park in his next start in early October. Having earned \$78,600 in his two outings in 2012, King and Crusader has a career bankroll of \$97,900 and ran his record to 3-0-1 from seven starts. 🐾

Maryland Million Horse Force takes the plunge for charity

Preakness Stakes-winning jockey Donnie Miller Jr. and Eclipse Award-winning apprentice rider Allen Stacy donned silks once again and jumped into the icy waters of the Chesapeake Bay for the 16th annual Maryland Special Olympics Polar Bear Plunge. The plunge was held Saturday, Jan. 28 at Sandy Point State Park in Annapolis.

The retired riders plunged as part of the Maryland Million Horse Force, the official team of the Maryland Million which raised more than \$3,000 for Special Olympics Maryland and consisted of 16 members, including trainer Tim Keefe. All team members wore jockey silks as they jumped into the bay waters three times.

Olympian Kimmie Meissner, a world champion figure skater from Harford County, was among the event's plungers, and joined Maryland Million Horse Force to plunge again as the team took their third and final trip into the water.

Maryland Million Horse Force joined over 14,000 others plunging in support of Special Olympics Maryland. All together, more than \$2 million was raised.




HORSE FORCE

 Tom Foley
 Timothy Keefe
 Kurt Kessler
 Don Miller Jr.
 John Orr
 Anne Pennington
 Brian Poynter
 Chris Poynter
 David Richardson
 Justina Sklodowski
 Allen Stacy
 Daniel Turner
 Kayla Walters
 Rebecca Walters
 Tina Walters



LYDIA A. WILLIAMS (5)

The Loyalty Bonus

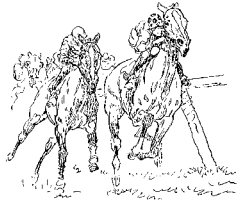
An additional 12.5% to breeders of Maryland-bred winners for ALL maiden races for the Pimlico Meet

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*The current Maryland Fund bonus program pays 17.5% to breeders of winners at the Laurel Meet.



MARYLAND FUND REPORT

Bonuses paid for races at Maryland tracks from January 4 to January 22, 2012.

Breeder bonuses

Leo Ambrogi—MAPLE LEAF RACER: Jan. 21, 3rd race, \$1,197.
 At Last Farm LLC—ROYAL RING: Jan. 11, 5th race, \$1,296.75/\$926.25. (\$2,223)
 Joseph W. Ayres Jr.—MADALYN'S CHOICE: Jan. 16, 3rd race, \$1,197.
 William M. Backer—CONGAREE PRINCESS: Jan. 21, 5th race, \$1,197.
 David Baxter—QUIET SCREAMER: Jan. 16, 5th race, \$997.50/\$712.50. (\$1,710)
 Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman—COUNT ON LOU: Jan. 14, 2nd race, \$1,795.50.
 Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Quin Bowman and Rebecca Davis—FRISCAN: Jan. 20, 4th race, \$3,092.25.
 Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Milton P. Higgins III and Three Chimneys Farm—AWESOME FLOWER: Jan. 16, 7th race, \$2,992.50/\$2,137.50. (\$5,130)
 Buckingham Farm—BRAVE AS A LION: Jan. 7, 6th race, \$3,291.75.
 Phil Capuano—OUR COMMANDER: Jan. 6, 2nd race, \$1,396.50.
 Country Roads Ltd.—PICS GOOD BOY: Jan. 11, 3rd race, \$1,197.
 Wilbur and Joan Everett—SILENT SHOT: Jan. 11, 4th race, \$1,197.
 Fitzhugh LLC—SPANISH OFFICER: Jan. 19, 7th race, \$2,992.50/\$2,137.50. (\$5,130)
 Keith Harpster—LUNAR LEGACY: Jan. 4, 1st race, \$997.50.
 William R. Harris—SECRET DAB: Jan. 6, 6th race, \$1,895.25.

David Hartman—DOMESTIC ROSE: Jan. 13, 3rd race, \$997.50/\$712.50. (\$1,710)
 Thomas F. Hunt—INDYS VALAY: Jan. 12, 9th race, \$1,496.25/\$1,068.75. (\$2,565)
 Alvin M. Lapidus—BRI'S VISION: Jan. 6, 4th race, \$1,197.
 Dale Long—RILEY'S RAMPAGE: Jan. 19, 1st race, \$1,995.
 Wayne and Juanita Morris—SOUND IT OUT: Jan. 7, 4th race, \$2,992.50/\$2,137.50. (\$5,130)
 Cynthia K. Rickman—CALL ME CONQUEST: Jan. 4, 5th race, \$997.50.
 Skeedattle Associates—SO PICKY: Jan. 14, 7th race, \$3,092.25.
 Summer Wind Bloodstock and Wilbur D. and Joan Everett—SMILEFORTHECAMERA: Jan. 19, 6th race, \$3,092.25.
 Tanterra Stables—YENTE: Jan. 16, 9th race, \$997.50/\$712.50. (\$1,710)
 Tuscany Farm LLC—HOUSTON BULL: Jan. 19, 8th race, \$3,291.75.
 Charles W. Walters Jr.—DESTINED TO DANCE: Jan. 12, 1st race, \$997.50/\$712.50. (\$1,710)
 Wrecking Crew Racing Stable—HITCHIN' TOTHEMOON: Jan. 6, 3rd race, \$1,197.

Owner bonuses

At Last Farm LLC—ROYAL RING: Jan. 11, 5th race, \$1,296.75.
 Dunbarton Stable LLC—FRISCAN: Jan. 20, 4th race, \$3,092.25.
 Joan P. Everett—SMILEFORTHECAMERA: Jan. 19, 6th race, \$3,092.25.
 William M. Ferrone—INDYS VALAY: Jan. 12, 9th race, \$1,496.25.

Fitzhugh LLC—SPANISH OFFICER: Jan. 19, 7th race, \$2,992.50.
 David Hartman—DOMESTIC ROSE: Jan. 13, 3rd race, \$997.50.
 Sylvia E. Heft—AWESOME FLOWER: Jan. 16, 7th race, \$2,992.50.
 Morris Stable LLC—SOUND IT OUT: Jan. 7, 4th race, \$2,992.50.
 Narrow Leaf Farm—QUIET SCREAMER: Jan. 16, 5th race, \$997.50.
 Six L's Stable—DESTINED TO DANCE: Jan. 12, 1st race, \$997.50.
 Skeedattle Associates—SO PICKY: Jan. 14, 7th race, \$3,092.25.
 Tanterra Stables—YENTE: Jan. 16, 9th race, \$997.50.
 Triple Tree Stables—BRAVE AS A LION: Jan. 7, 6th race, \$3,291.75.
 Tuscany Farm LLC—HOUSTON BULL: Jan. 19, 8th race, \$3,291.75.

Stallion bonuses

AFLEET PRINCE (Madalyn's Choice: Jan. 16, 3rd race, \$598.50): Joseph Ayres Jr.
 CHEROKEE'S BOY (Lunar Legacy: Jan. 4, 1st race, \$498.75): ZWP Stable.

DANCE WITH RAVENS (Indys Valay: Jan. 12, 9th race, \$748.13): Dance With Ravens Syndicate.
 DISCO RICO (Destined to Dance: Jan. 12, 1st race, \$498.75): Alfred and Joseph DiRico.
 DOMESTIC DISPUTE (Domestic Rose: Jan. 13, 3rd race, \$498.75. Pics Good Boy: Jan. 11, 3rd race, \$598.50. Riley's Rampage: Jan. 19, 1st race, \$997.50): Domestic Dispute Syndicate—\$2,094.75.
 FLEET FOOT (Call Me Conquest: Jan. 4, 5th race, \$498.75): Rickman Racing LLC.
 JAZZ CLUB (Yente: Jan. 16, 9th race, \$498.75): Maryland Stallion Station and Lane's End Farm.
 LION HEARTED (Brave as a Lion: Jan. 7, 6th race, \$1,645.88. So Picky: Jan. 14, 7th race, \$1,546.13): Lion Hearted Syndicate—\$3,192.01.
 M EIGHTY (Houston Bull: Jan. 19, 8th race, \$1,645.88): Don Pistorio.
 ORATORY (Sound It Out: Jan. 7, 4th race, \$1,496.25): Country Life Farm and Darley.
 SEEKING DAYLIGHT (Maple Leaf Racer: Jan. 21, 3rd race, \$598.50): Seeking Daylight Syndicate.
 ST AVERIL (Hitchin' Tothemoon: Jan. 6, 3rd race, \$598.50): Maryland Stallion Station and Bradley Thoroughbreds.
 TWO PUNCH (Friscan: Jan. 20, 4th race, \$1,546.13): Two Punch Syndicate.

Breeder loyalty bonuses

Additional 12.5 percent bonus paid to breeders of all maiden race winners at Laurel winter meet.

At Last Farm LLC—ROYAL RING: Jan. 11, 5th race, \$926.25. (Total breeder bonuses—\$2,223)
 David Baxter—QUIET SCREAMER: Jan. 16, 5th race, \$712.50. (Total breeder bonuses—\$1,710)
 Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Milton P. Higgins III and Three Chimneys Farm—AWESOME FLOWER: Jan. 16, 7th race, \$2,137.50. (Total breeder bonuses—\$5,130)
 Fitzhugh LLC—SPANISH OFFICER: Jan. 19, 7th race, \$2,137.50. (Total breeder bonuses—\$5,130)
 David Hartman—DOMESTIC ROSE: Jan. 13, 3rd race, \$712.50. (Total breeder bonuses—\$1,710)
 Thomas F. Hunt—INDYS VALAY: Jan. 12, 9th race, \$1,068.75. (Total breeder bonuses—\$2,565)
 Wayne and Juanita Morris—SOUND IT OUT: Jan. 7, 4th race, \$2,137.50. (Total breeder bonuses—\$5,130)
 Tanterra Stables—YENTE: Jan. 16, 9th race, \$712.50. (Total breeder bonuses—\$1,710)
 Charles W. Walters Jr.—DESTINED TO DANCE: Jan. 12, 1st race, \$712.50. (Total breeder bonuses—\$1,710)

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SPECIAL \$5,000 BONUS PAYMENTS

MSW PAYMENTS (January 4 - January 22, 2012):
Fitzhugh LLC; Sylvia E. Heft; Morris Stable LLC.



WHAT IS MHBA'S PAC?

It is a **political action committee** formed by the Maryland Horse Breeders Association. The PAC solicits voluntary contributions from individuals or corporations to support issues or assist selected candidates for public office in the state of Maryland who are interested in the problems of our industry and are willing to help us solve those problems.

WHY DO WE NEED PAC?

The largest market for horses bred in Maryland is horse racing, an industry which is closely regulated by state government. In addition, while not well understood, horse breeding is an especially important segment of Maryland agriculture. The economic well-being of racing and breeding is very much a function of the political process. It is essential to the health of our industry that we educate our elected official and support those who work with us on issues vital to our interests.

HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

Visit us at MarylandThoroughbred.com for details and send in your check **TODAY!**

Not For Love, Scipion, Dance With Ravens top 2011 Maryland sires lists

For the ninth year in a row, Northview Stallion Station's Not For Love wrapped up the season as Maryland's leading sire by progeny earnings. Not For Love runners accrued \$4,113,670 in 2011, as fellow Northview resident Lion Hearted finished second on the list with earnings of \$3,480,680.

Not For Love was represented by six stakes winners, 13 stakes-placed, for the year, led by Eighttofasttocatch, the winner of four stakes, including the Maryland Million Classic, and an earner of \$266,200 for the season.

Not For Love became the winningest sire in Maryland Million history when four of his offspring won on the October 2011 card at Laurel—Eighttofasttocatch (who topped a Not For Love Classic triple), Love That Dance (Distaff), Love's Blush (Ladies) and Brushed by Love (Oaks). Those wins shot Not For Love past longtime leader Allen's Prospect, who had sired the winners of 22 Maryland Million Day races. Not For Love's runners have captured 25 Maryland Million events.

Not For Love, a 22-year-old son of Mr. Prospector, has lifetime progeny earnings in excess of \$57.4 million from 13 crops to race.

Dance With Ravens was the leading Maryland 2-year-old sire by earnings and winners, with 10 juvenile winners from 24 starters, for earnings of \$329,851. Dance With Ravens was also the leading third-crop in the Northeast, his runners earning \$2,824,830 for the year. Among his notable offspring is three-time stakes winner Ann's Smart Dancer. Ten-year-old Dance With Ravens (A.P. Indy—Dance Smartly, by Danzig) also makes his home at Northview Stallion Station in Chesapeake City.

Murmur Farm's Scipion was the leading freshman sire in the Mid-Atlantic region, with his first-crop runners earning \$283,585. He led all Northeast freshman sires by number of winners, with nine from 15 starters. Won the War was Scipion's top performer, with a win and two thirds from six starts, for earnings of \$50,000. He placed in two stakes, the Maryland Million Nursery at Laurel and the First State Dash Stakes at Delaware Park.

Scipion, a 10-year-old son of A.P. Indy out of the graded stakes-winning Strawberry Road (Aus) mare Strawberry Reason, stands at Allen and Audrey Murray's farm in Darlington.

New early nomination for Maryland Hunt Cup

In an effort to increase awareness of probable contenders and build excitement during the spring timber season, the Maryland Hunt Cup Association is implementing a new early nomination process for the 116th running of the \$75,000 Maryland Hunt Cup. Held on its traditional date, the final Saturday of April, this year's Maryland Hunt Cup will be run on April 28 in Glyndon.

Fees for horses nominated by March 13 will be \$25; after that date, horses may be supplemented for \$500. Entry and starter fees will remain the same: \$300 additional to en-



ter by Tuesday, April 24; \$500 additional if not scratched by Wednesday, April 25; plus \$600 to start.

For information, contact the National Steeplechase Association at (410) 392-0700 or secretary Sherlock Gillet Jr. at (410) 825-3722.

MHIB Touch of Class Award for January 2012



The Maryland Horse Industry Board presented its January 2012 Touch of Class Award to Lisa Carr and Allyson Coluccio, co-owners of top pony sire Blue Rain. The U.S. Equestrian Foundation's National Champion Pony Sire from 2004 to 2011, Blue Rain—a Welsh pony/Thoroughbred, now 23—lives at Springdale Pony Stud in Frederick County. Those representing Blue Rain at the presentation made at the Horse World Expo in Timonium on Jan. 21 were Blue Fox, a son of Blue Rain, with Carr; Jordan Edwards of the Blue Rain Fan Club; Jeannette Warner, owner/trainer of many Blue Rain ponies; Coluccio; Blue Rain Fan Club's Brianna Harris; Val d'Ambrosio, MHIB marketing committee member; Rossalyn Morgan; Maryland Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Mary Ellen Setting; MHIB member Karen Fulton; and MHIB chairman Jim Steele.

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Maryland's top 20 earners in 2012

(through February 15)

1. Barbecue Eddie \$94,000	11. Overnight Fling \$27,000
2. King and Crusader 78,600	12. Pass You Bye Bye 25,110
3. Action Andy 66,000	13. Mass Destruction 24,720
4. Monument Hill 48,600	14. Cheimon 24,300
5. Midnite Silver 45,600	15. Strangerinthenight 24,180
6. Universal Language 44,400	16. Centripetal Motion 22,200
7. Malibu Kid 43,670	17. Hill Crossing 21,067
8. Baltimore Belle 35,000	18. Sound It Out 20,950
9. Hello Lover 31,800	19. Shotgun City 20,400
10. Charge 28,800	20. Spanish Officer 20,100

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Maryland's leading sires

Supplied by Bloodstock Research Information Services (BRIS), these statistics were compiled on February 15. Lifetime earnings for stallions with at least one starter in 2012. † denotes freshman sire.

Earnings in 2012

	Strs	Starts	Wnrs	Wins	Earnings
Lion Hearted	49	79	18	19	\$311,192
Dance With Ravens . .	61	102	7	8	279,436
Not For Love	62	97	9	10	239,259
Two Punch	29	48	7	7	178,403
Gators N Bears	26	38	5	6	154,933
Outflanker	26	50	6	6	151,603
Louis Quatorze	36	70	3	3	136,117
Rock Slide	33	50	5	5	103,427
Great Notion	24	41	4	4	98,277
Go for Gin	18	36	6	6	84,667
Cherokee's Boy	7	17	2	2	37,740
Seeking Daylight	13	18	2	2	26,850
Scipion	13	21	1	1	26,349

Earnings lifetime

	Strs	Starts	Wnrs	Wins	Earnings
Not For Love	647	13,612	520	2,094	\$57,545,500
Allen's Prospect	927	23,227	768	3,360	54,411,200
Two Punch	860	16,392	663	2,474	49,936,000
Polish Numbers	439	9,176	362	1,350	32,929,700
Carnivalay	494	13,306	405	1,818	30,447,000
Louis Quatorze	532	9,823	388	1,276	28,057,000
Waquoit	469	11,110	358	1,490	26,269,800
Citidancer	296	7,019	254	1,215	25,324,100
Eastern Echo	416	8,514	289	1,108	22,444,300
Outflanker	323	6,910	251	1,015	21,125,700
Norquestor	293	8,733	252	1,242	20,945,400
Lion Hearted	364	5,898	280	853	19,399,500
Deputed Testamony . .	352	10,209	267	1,403	18,499,600
Go for Gin	298	5,235	191	643	16,960,900
Hail Emperor	201	5,688	133	718	7,389,500
Wayne County (Ire) . .	153	2,992	99	343	5,983,650
Mojave Moon	149	2,828	104	310	5,427,750
Rock Slide	133	1,653	81	196	5,112,270
Crowd Pleaser	101	1,680	72	223	5,092,690
Dance With Ravens . .	155	1,755	94	208	4,981,790
Aaron's Concorde . . .	84	1,917	62	203	3,945,750
Great Notion	72	829	53	147	3,812,940

2-year-old earnings lifetime

	Strs	Starts	Wnrs	Wins	Earnings
Allen's Prospect	458	1,558	175	240	\$5,629,410
Two Punch	423	1,351	159	198	5,291,730
Not For Love	288	916	108	145	5,210,200
Polish Numbers	229	700	84	122	3,672,570
Citidancer	153	575	82	124	3,220,990
Louis Quatorze	253	782	78	99	3,102,490
Eastern Echo	220	812	73	100	3,032,700
Outflanker	183	757	78	106	2,693,810
Lion Hearted	174	576	68	95	2,541,130
Carnivalay	249	1,010	88	122	2,480,130
Waquoit	198	681	56	81	1,920,960
Norquestor	136	508	47	64	1,316,410
Go for Gin	154	498	31	38	941,794
Dance With Ravens . .	89	336	24	30	882,542
Deputed Testamony . .	174	695	38	51	761,008
Rock Slide	65	216	15	24	731,821
Mojave Moon	81	310	24	26	568,838
Great Notion	22	68	10	16	528,151
Deputy Storm	14	61	9	15	418,972
Wayne County (Ire) . .	63	208	22	24	408,713